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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 10/03)

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE _3_ MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _05 August 2005_.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL.**   2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) _1-59_ is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) _1-59_ is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on _13 February 2002_ is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date _02132002, 12282004, 08053005_

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6)☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1.   This Office Action is in response to the amendment filed 05 August 2005.

2.   Claims 1, 11, 15, 27, 37 and 52 were amended.

3.   Claims 56-59 were added.

4.   Claims 1-59 are pending in this Office Action.

Response to Amendment

5.   The objection to claims 11 and 37 regarding minor informalities was addressed and is

withdrawn.

6.   The objection to the drawing was addressed and is withdrawn.

7.   The rejection of claims 1, 12, 18, 27, 38 and 44 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 2nd paragraph

regarding insufficient antecedent basis was addressed and is withdrawn.

8.   The rejection of claims 6 and 7 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 2nd paragraph regarding

indefiniteness is moot due to cancellation of aforementioned claims.

9.   Applicant's amendments and arguments with respect to claims 1-55 and new claims 56-

59 filed on 05 August 2005 have been fully considered but they are deemed to be moot in

view of the new grounds of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

10. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

> The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

11. Claim 57 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention. The claim states "the apparatus wherein said closure of said Internet permits an Internet connection." It is unclear how an Internet connection can be opened if the Internet is non-functional.

12. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

> The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

13. Claim 57 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. It is unclear how an Internet connection can be opened if the Internet is non-functional.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

14.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in
section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are
such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person
having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the
manner in which the invention was made.

15.   Claims 1-12, 18-38 and 44-57 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable

over Vaziri et al. (U.S. 6,377,570) and further in view of Imai et al. (U.S. 5,726,769).

Vaziri teaches the invention substantially as claimed including an Internet switch box that

connects between a telephone set and a public switched telephone network (PSTN) line for

connection to an Internet service provider (ISP). The switch box contains hardware and

embedded software for establishing a connection to an ISP and for Internet telephone (Vaziri,

see Abstract).

16.   With respect to claim 1, Vaziri teaches an apparatus for a user to connect an Internet-

ready device to the Internet by an Internet connection independent means (Vaziri, Fig. 7B,

element 100; col. 14, line 55 - col. 15, line 2), comprising:

At least two connection ports, where the first port connects to an Internet conduit, and the

second port connects to the Internet-ready device capable of communicating utilizing

Internet-related protocols (Vaziri, Fig. 4; col. 12, lines 1-6); a user interface, allowing the

user to initiate passing information between the Internet-ready device and the Internet

(Vaziri, col. 3, lines 33-37), a protocol handler block for receiving and handling messages from the user interface and from the Internet-ready device (Vaziri, col. 17, line 57 - col. 18, line 33), and for sending on the handled messages to a network stack block (Vaziri, col. 13, 13-31); the network stack block for handling an associated subset of the handled messages, and sending on to a physical connection block (Vaziri, col. 14, line 55 - col. 15, line 2); and the physical connection block for connecting to the Internet (Vaziri, col. 12, lines 13-16).

Vaziri does not explicitly teach indicators alerting the user that the passing of information is finished.

However, Imai teaches an apparatus having associated indicators to indicate to the user that the passing of information that was initiated by the user is complete (Imai, Fig. 11; col. 21, line 36-38).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Vaziri in view of Imai in order to enable the use of indicators alerting the user that the passing of information is finished. One would be motivated to do so in order to facilitate recognition of the completion of a specific task.

17.   With respect to claim 2, Vaziri teaches the invention described in claim 1, including where the indicators range from, but are not limited to, simple LED's to small LCD screens, cursor controls, and keyboards and/or keypads (Vaziri, col. 11, lines 11-22).

18.   With respect to claim 3, Vaziri teaches the invention described in claim 1, including further comprising a standard telephone jack connection (Vaziri, Fig. 4; col. 12, lines 1-6).

19.   With respect to claim 4, Vaziri teaches the invention described in claim 1, including where the physical connection block comprises a data modem (Vaziri, col. 12, lines 13-16).

20.   With respect to claim 5, Vaziri teaches the invention described in claim 4, including where the data modem ranges from 2400 bps to 56 kbps, or where the data modem is an xDSL or cable modem (Vaziri, col. 12, lines 13-16).

21.   With respect to claim 6, Vaziri teaches the invention described in claim 1, including where the network stack block handles all network, transport layer, and data link layer protocols needed for Internet connectivity (Vaziri, col. 14, line 55 - col. 15, line 2).

22.   With respect to claim 7, Vaziri teaches the invention described in claim 1, including where the protocol handler provides any of the following application protocols: POP3, SMTP, HTTP, FTP, and DNS (Vaziri, col. 13, lines 13-25).

23.   With respect to claim 8, Vaziri teaches the invention described in claim 1, including where the apparatus is built as a standalone device (Vaziri, Fig. 7A, element 100; col. 14, lines 39-41).

24.   With respect to claim 9, Vaziri teaches the invention described in claim 1, including where the apparatus is built to be embedded into other devices (Vaziri, col. 3, lines 21-23).

25.   With respect to claim 10, Vaziri teaches the invention described in claim 1, including

where the data modem is a cable modem (Vaziri, col. 12, lines 13-16).

26.   With respect to claim 11, Vaziri teaches the invention described in claim 1, including

added easily to any of, but not limited to: set-top-boxes; Ethernet hubs; and hubs that are

attached to new home networking standards (Vaziri, col. 3, lines 64-66).

27.   With respect to claim 12, Vaziri teaches the invention described in claim 1, including

where the connection between the Internet-ready device and the Internet is closed in that the

user never intervenes to provide additional information (Vaziri, col. 3, lines 33-37).

28.   With respect to claim 18, Vaziri teaches the invention described in claim 1, including

where the initiating passing information between the Internet-ready device and the Internet is

by the user pressing a button, thereby providing a one-touch operation (Vaziri, col. 3, lines

33-37).

29.   With respect to claim 19, Vaziri teaches the invention described in claim 1, including

further comprising raw socket support (Vaziri, col. 10, lines 9-13).

30.   With respect to claim 20, Vaziri teaches the invention described in claim 19, including

where the raw socket support further comprises any of, but is not limited to: support for

multiple sockets; ability to set target and source port numbers; and TCP or UDP transport layers (Vaziri, col. 10, lines 9-13).

31.   With respect to claim 21, Vaziri teaches the invention described in claim 1, including where the protocol handler comprises a micro controller (Vaziri, col. 9, lines 13-19).

32.   With respect to claim 22, Vaziri teaches the invention described in claim 21, including where the micro controller provides Base64 and/or quoted printable data decoding (Vaziri, col. 18, lines 24-33).

33.   With respect to claim 23, Vaziri teaches the invention described in claim 21, including where the micro controller communicates directly with the Internet-ready device and with a raw socket (Vaziri, col. 10, lines 1-13).

34.   With respect to claim 24, Vaziri teaches the invention described in claim 1, including further comprising multiple Internet-ready device connectors (Vaziri, Fig. 4; col. 12, lines 1-6).

35.   With respect to claim 25, Vaziri teaches the invention described in claim 1, including further comprising auto BAUD rate detection for RS-232 type connections (Vaziri, col. 14, line 55 - col. 15, line 2).

36.   With respect to claim 26, Vaziri teaches the invention described in claim 5, including

further comprising a pass through port where an existing POTS appliance may be connected

(Vaziri, Fig. 7A, element 211; col. 14, lines 39-41).

37.   With respect to claim 27, Vaziri teaches a method for a user to connect an Internet-ready

device to the Internet by an Internet connection independent means (Vaziri, Fig. 7B, element

100; col. 14, line 55 - col. 15, line 2), comprising:

At least two connection ports, where the first port connects to an Internet conduit, and the

second port connects to the Internet-ready device capable of communicating utilizing

Internet-related protocols (Vaziri, Fig. 4; col. 12, lines 1-6); a user interface, allowing the

user to initiate passing information between the Internet-ready device and the Internet

(Vaziri, col. 3, lines 33-37); a protocol handler block for receiving and handling messages

from the user interface and from the Internet-ready device, and for sending on the handled

messages to a network stack block (Vaziri, col. 17, line 57 - col. 18, line 33); the network

stack block for handling an associated subset of the handled messages, and sending on to a

physical connection block (Vaziri, col. 14, line 55 - col. 15, line 2); and the physical

connection block for connecting to the Internet (Vaziri, col. 12, lines 13-16).

Vaziri does not explicitly teach indicators alerting the user that the passing of information

is finished.

However, Imai teaches a device having associated indicators to indicate to the user that

the passing of information that was initiated by the user is complete (Imai, Fig. 11; col. 21,

line 36-38).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Vaziri in view of Imai in order to enable the use of indicators alerting the user that the passing of information is finished. One would be motivated to do so in order to facilitate recognition of the completion of a specific task.

38.   With respect to claim 28, Vaziri teaches the invention described in claim 27, including where the indicators range from, but are not limited to, simple LED's to small LCD screens, cursor controls, and keyboards and/or keypads (Vaziri, col. 11, lines 11-22).

39.   With respect to claim 29, Vaziri teaches the invention described in claim 27, including further comprising a standard telephone jack connection (Vaziri, Fig. 4; col. 12, lines 1-6).

40.   With respect to claim 30, Vaziri teaches the invention described in claim 27, including where the physical connection block comprises a data modem (Vaziri, col. 12, lines 13-16).

41.   With respect to claim 31, Vaziri teaches the invention described in claim 30, including where the data modem ranges from 2400 bps to 56 kbps, or where the data modem is an xDSL or cable modem (Vaziri, col. 12, lines 13-16).

42.   With respect to claim 32, Vaziri teaches the invention described in claim 27, including where the network stack block handles all network, transport layer, and data link layer protocols needed for Internet connectivity (Vaziri, col. 14, line 55 - col. 15, line 2).

43.   With respect to claim 33, Vaziri teaches the invention described in claim 27, including where the protocol handler provides any of the following application protocols: POP3, SMTP, HTTP, FTP, and DNS (Vaziri, col. 13, lines 13-25).

44.   With respect to claim 34, Vaziri teaches the invention described in claim 27, including where standalone capability is provided (Vaziri, Fig. 7A, element 100; col. 14, lines 39-41).

45.   With respect to claim 35, Vaziri teaches the invention described in claim 27, including where embeddable capability into other devices is provided (Vaziri, Fig. 2B; col. 10, lines 26-28).

46.   With respect to claim 36, Vaziri teaches the invention described in claim 27, including where the data modem is a cable modem (Vaziri, col. 12, lines 13-16).

47.   With respect to claim 37, Vaziri teaches the invention described in claim 27, including further providing easy connectivity to any of, but not limited to: set-top-boxes; Ethernet hubs; and hubs that are attached to new home networking standards (Vaziri, col. 3, lines 64-66).

48.   With respect to claim 38, Vaziri teaches the invention described in claim 27, including where the connection between the Internet-ready device and the Internet is closed in that the user never intervenes to provide additional information (Vaziri, col. 3, lines 33-37).

49.   With respect to claim 44, Vaziri teaches the invention described in claim 27, including

where the initiating passing information between the Internet-ready device and the Internet is

by the user pressing a button, thereby providing a one-touch operation (Vaziri, col. 3, lines

33-37).

50.   With respect to claim 45, Vaziri teaches the invention described in claim 27, including

further comprising raw socket support (Vaziri, col. 10, lines 9-13).

51.   With respect to claim 46, Vaziri teaches the invention described in claim 45, including

where the raw socket support further comprises any of, but is not limited to: support for

multiple sockets; ability to set target and source port numbers; and TCP or UDP transport

layers (Vaziri, col. 10, lines 9-13).

52.   With respect to claim 47, Vaziri teaches the invention described in claim 27, including

where the protocol handler comprises a micro controller (Vaziri, col. 9, lines 13-19).

53.   With respect to claim 48, Vaziri teaches the invention described in claim 47, including

where the micro controller provides Base64 and/or quoted printable data decoding (Vaziri,

col. 18, lines 24-33).

54.   With respect to claim 49, Vaziri teaches the invention described in claim 47, including

where the micro controller communicates directly with the Internet-ready device and with a

raw socket (Vaziri, col. 10, lines 1-13).

55.   With respect to claim 50, Vaziri teaches the invention described in claim 27, including

further providing multiple Internet-ready device connectors (Vaziri, Fig. 4; col. 12, lines 1-

6).

56.   With respect to claim 51, Vaziri teaches the invention described in claim 27, including

further providing auto BAUD rate detection for RS-232 type connections (Vaziri, col. 14,

line 55 - col. 15, line 2).

57.   With respect to claim 52, Vaziri teaches an apparatus for a user to connect an Internet-

ready device to the Internet, where the apparatus is embedded into the Internet-ready device

(Vaziri, col. 3, lines 21-23), the apparatus comprising:

A user interface block to connect to the Internet-ready device capable of communicating

utilizing Internet-related protocols (Vaziri, col. 3, lines 33-37); and a physical connector

block for connecting to the Internet (Vaziri, col. 12, lines 13-16).

58.   With respect to claim 53, Vaziri teaches the invention described in claim 52, including

further comprising a protocol handler block (Vaziri, col. 13, lines 13-25).

59.   With respect to claim 54, Vaziri teaches the invention described in claim 52, including

where the embeddable devices comprise any of, but are not limited to: Internet capable

phones; answering machines; and fax machines (Vaziri, Fig. 1, element 104; col. 6, lines 22-

25).

60.   With respect to claim 55, Vaziri teaches the invention described in claim 31, including

further comprising a pass through port where an existing POTS appliance may be connected

(Vaziri, Fig. 7A, element 211; col. 14, lines 39-41).

61.   With respect to claim 56, Vaziri teaches the invention described in claim 1, including

where the Internet-ready device is embedded into an Internet-capable telephone (Vaziri, col.

3, lines 21-23).

62.   With respect to claim 57, Vaziri teaches the invention described in claim 12, including

where the closure of the Internet permits an Internet connection only to a website specified

by the Internet-ready device (Vaziri, col. 21, lines 28-56).

63.   Claims 13-16 and 39-42 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over

Vaziri and Imai and further in view of Himmel et al. (U.S. 6,480,852).

Vaziri teaches the invention substantially as claimed including an Internet switch box that

connects between a telephone set and a public switched telephone network (PSTN) line for

connection to an Internet service provider (ISP). The switch box contains hardware and

embedded software for establishing a connection to an ISP and for Internet telephone (Vaziri,

see Abstract).

64.   With respect to claim 13, Vaziri teaches an apparatus for a user to connect an Internet-

ready device to the Internet by an Internet connection independent means (Vaziri, Fig. 7B,

element 100; col. 14, line 55 - col. 15, line 2).

Vaziri does not explicitly teach indicators alerting the user that the passing of information

is finished.

However, Imai teaches an apparatus having associated indicators to indicate to the user

that the passing of information that was initiated by the user is complete (Imai, Fig. 11; col.

21, line 36-38).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention

was made to modify Vaziri in view of Imai in order to enable the use of indicators alerting

the user that the passing of information is finished. One would be motivated to do so in order

to facilitate recognition of the completion of a specific task.

The combination of Vaziri and Imai does not explicitly teach the use of a rating system.

However, Himmel teaches a rating system, where the Internet-ready device passes a rating level to the Internet, where only data not violating the rating level is passed back to the Internet-ready device (Himmel, col. 9, lines 28-66).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combination of Vaziri and Imai in view of Himmel in order to enable the use of a rating system. One would be motivated to do so in order to facilitate selectively inhibiting access to or display of any Web page having a rating property value that is less than some user- or system-defined threshold.

65.   With respect to claim 14, Vaziri teaches an apparatus for a user to connect an Internet-ready device to the Internet by an Internet connection independent means (Vaziri, Fig. 7B, element 100; col. 14, line 55 - col. 15, line 2).

Vaziri does not explicitly teach indicators alerting the user that the passing of information is finished.

However, Imai teaches an apparatus having associated indicators to indicate to the user that the passing of information that was initiated by the user is complete (Imai, Fig. 11; col. 21, line 36-38).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Vaziri in view of Imai in order to enable the use of indicators alerting the user that the passing of information is finished. One would be motivated to do so in order to facilitate recognition of the completion of a specific task.

The combination of Vaziri and Imai does not explicitly teach the use of a rating system.

However, Himmel teaches an apparatus further comprising security schemes to prevent

accessing information of unauthorized sites (Himmel, col. 9, lines 28-66).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention

was made to modify the combination of Vaziri and Imai in view of Himmel in order to

enable the use of a rating system. One would be motivated to do so in order to facilitate

selectively inhibiting access to or display of any Web page having a rating property value

that is less than some user- or system-defined threshold.

66.   With respect to claim 15, Vaziri teaches the invention described in claim 14, including a

key code for passing from the Internet-ready device to the Internet, where a pre-agreed upon

algorithm is used to generate a response, where the response is sent back to the Internet-ready

device, thereby authenticating the Internet connection to the Internet-ready device (Vaziri,

col. 14, line 55 - col. 15, line 2).

67.   With respect to claim 16, Vaziri teaches the invention described in claim 15, including

the apparatus used in reverse to prevent unauthorized Internet-ready devices from accessing a

particular site (Vaziri, col. 14, line 55 - col. 15, line 2).

68.   With respect to claim 39, Vaziri teaches a method for a user to connect an Internet-ready

device to the Internet by an Internet connection independent means (Vaziri, Fig. 7B, element

100; col. 14, line 55 - col. 15, line 2).

Vaziri does not explicitly teach indicators alerting the user that the passing of information is finished.

However, Imai teaches a method for a device having associated indicators to indicate to the user that the passing of information that was initiated by the user is complete (Imai, Fig. 11; col. 21, line 36-38).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Vaziri in view of Imai in order to enable the use of indicators alerting the user that the passing of information is finished. One would be motivated to do so in order to facilitate recognition of the completion of a specific task.

The combination of Vaziri and Imai does not explicitly teach the use of a rating system.

However, Himmel teaches a rating system, where the Internet-ready device passes a rating level to the Internet, where only data not violating the rating level is passed back to the Internet-ready device (Himmel, col. 9, lines 28-66).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combination of Vaziri and Imai in view of Himmel in order to enable the use of a rating system. One would be motivated to do so in order to facilitate selectively inhibiting access to or display of any Web page having a rating property value that is less than some user- or system-defined threshold.

69.   With respect to claim 40, Vaziri teaches a method for a user to connect an Internet-ready device to the Internet by an Internet connection independent means (Vaziri, Fig. 7B, element 100; col. 14, line 55 - col. 15, line 2).

Vaziri does not explicitly teach indicators alerting the user that the passing of information is finished.

However, Imai teaches a method for a device having associated indicators to indicate to the user that the passing of information that was initiated by the user is complete (Imai, Fig. 11; col. 21, line 36-38).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Vaziri in view of Imai in order to enable the use of indicators alerting the user that the passing of information is finished. One would be motivated to do so in order to facilitate recognition of the completion of a specific task.

The combination of Vaziri and Imai does not explicitly teach the use of a rating system.

However, Himmel teaches a method further comprising security schemes to prevent accessing information of unauthorized sites (Himmel, col. 9, lines 28-66).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combination of Vaziri and Imai in view of Himmel in order to enable the use of a rating system. One would be motivated to do so in order to facilitate selectively inhibiting access to or display of any Web page having a rating property value that is less than some user- or system-defined threshold.

70.   With respect to claim 41, Vaziri teaches the invention described in claim 40, including a key code for passing from the Internet-ready device to the Internet, where a pre-agreed upon algorithm is used to generate a response, where the response is sent back to the Internet-ready

device, thereby authenticating the Internet connection to the Internet-ready device (Vaziri, col. 14, line 55 - col. 15, line 2).

71.   With respect to claim 42, Vaziri teaches the invention described in claim 41, including the method used in reverse to prevent unauthorized Internet-ready devices from accessing a particular site (Vaziri, col. 14, line 55 - col. 15, line 2).

72.   Claims 17 and 43 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Vaziri, Imai and Himmel and further in view of Martin et al. ("An Alternative to Government Regulation and Censorship: Content Advisory Systems for the Internet").

        Vaziri teaches the invention substantially as claimed including an Internet switch box that connects between a telephone set and a public switched telephone network (PSTN) line for connection to an Internet service provider (ISP). The switch box contains hardware and embedded software for establishing a connection to an ISP and for Internet telephone (Vaziri, see Abstract).

73.   With respect to claim 17, Vaziri teaches an apparatus for a user to connect an Internet-ready device to the Internet by an Internet connection independent means (Vaziri, Fig. 7B, element 100; col. 14, line 55 - col. 15, line 2).

Vaziri does not explicitly teach indicators alerting the user that the passing of information is finished.

However, Imai teaches an apparatus having associated indicators to indicate to the user that the passing of information that was initiated by the user is complete (Imai, Fig. 11; col. 21, line 36-38).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Vaziri in view of Imai in order to enable the use of indicators alerting the user that the passing of information is finished. One would be motivated to do so in order to facilitate recognition of the completion of a specific task.

The combination of Vaziri and Imai does not explicitly teach the use of a rating system.

However, Himmel teaches a rating system, where the Internet-ready device passes a rating level to the Internet, where only data not violating the rating level is passed back to the Internet-ready device (Himmel, col. 9, lines 28-66).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combination of Vaziri and Imai in view of Himmel in order to enable the use of a rating system. One would be motivated to do so in order to facilitate selectively inhibiting access to or display of any Web page having a rating property value that is less than some user- or system-defined threshold.

The combination of Vaziri, Imai, and Himmel does not explicitly teach the use of RSAC as a rating system.

However, Martin teaches the apparatus where the rating system is RSAC (Martin, page 2, 4th paragraph).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combination of Vaziri, Imai and Himmel in view of Martin in order to enable the use of RSAC as a rating system. One would be motivated to do so in order to provide parents and consumers with objective, detailed information about the content of an Internet site.

74.   With respect to claim 43, Vaziri teaches a method for a user to connect an Internet-ready device to the Internet by an Internet connection independent means (Vaziri, Fig. 7B, element 100; col. 14, line 55 - col. 15, line 2).

Vaziri does not explicitly teach indicators alerting the user that the passing of information is finished.

However, Imai teaches a method for a device having associated indicators to indicate to the user that the passing of information that was initiated by the user is complete (Imai, Fig. 11; col. 21, line 36-38).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Vaziri in view of Imai in order to enable the use of indicators alerting the user that the passing of information is finished. One would be motivated to do so in order to facilitate recognition of the completion of a specific task.

The combination of Vaziri and Imai does not explicitly teach the use of a rating system.

However, Himmel teaches a rating system, where the Internet-ready device passes a rating level to the Internet, where only data not violating the rating level is passed back to the Internet-ready device (Himmel, col. 9, lines 28-66).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention

was made to modify the combination of Vaziri and Imai in view of Himmel in order to

enable the use of a rating system. One would be motivated to do so in order to facilitate

selectively inhibiting access to or display of any Web page having a rating property value

that is less than some user- or system-defined threshold.

The combination of Vaziri, Imai, and Himmel does not explicitly teach the use of RSAC

as a rating system.

However, Martin teaches the method where the rating system is RSAC (Martin, page 2,

4th paragraph).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention

was made to modify the combination of Vaziri, Imai and Himmel in view of Martin in order

to enable the use of RSAC as a rating system. One would be motivated to do so in order to

provide parents and consumers with objective, detailed information about the content of an

Internet site.

75.   Claim 58 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Vaziri and Imai

and further in view of Sharpe, III et al. (U.S. 6,012,961).

Vaziri teaches the invention substantially as claimed including an Internet switch box that

connects between a telephone set and a public switched telephone network (PSTN) line for

connection to an Internet service provider (ISP). The switch box contains hardware and

embedded software for establishing a connection to an ISP and for Internet telephone (Vaziri,

see Abstract).

76.   With respect to claim 58, Vaziri teaches an apparatus for a user to connect an Internet-

ready device to the Internet by an Internet connection independent means (Vaziri, Fig. 7B,

element 100; col. 14, line 55 - col. 15, line 2), comprising:

At least two connection ports, where the first port connects to an Internet conduit, and the

second port connects to the Internet-ready device capable of communicating utilizing

Internet-related protocols (Vaziri, Fig. 4; col. 12, lines 1-6); a user interface, allowing the

user to initiate passing information between the Internet-ready device and the Internet

(Vaziri, col. 3, lines 33-37), a protocol handler block for receiving and handling messages

from the user interface and from the Internet-ready device (Vaziri, col. 17, line 57 - col. 18,

line 33), and for sending on the handled messages to a network stack block (Vaziri, col. 13,

13-31); the network stack block for handling an associated subset of the handled messages,

and sending on to a physical connection block (Vaziri, col. 14, line 55 - col. 15, line 2); and

the physical connection block for connecting to the Internet (Vaziri, col. 12, lines 13-16).

Vaziri does not explicitly teach indicators alerting the user that the passing of information

is finished.

However, Imai teaches an apparatus having associated indicators to indicate to the user

that the passing of information that was initiated by the user is complete (Imai, Fig. 11; col.

21, line 36-38).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Vaziri in view of Imai in order to enable the use of indicators alerting the user that the passing of information is finished. One would be motivated to do so in order to facilitate recognition of the completion of a specific task.

The combination of Vaziri and Imai does not explicitly teach the use of a toy that produces sounds that can be updated.

However, Sharpe, III teaches the Internet-ready device includes a toy which emits sounds that are updated utilizing the Internet (Sharpe, III, col. 4, line 16 – col. 5, line 58).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combination of Vaziri and Imai in view of Sharpe, III in order to enable the use of a toy that produces sounds that can be updated. One would be motivated to do so in order to renew the play value of the toy and extend the life of the toy beyond the original characteristics.

77.   Claim 59 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Vaziri and Imai and further in view of Reavey et al. (U.S. 5,847,698).

Vaziri teaches the invention substantially as claimed including an Internet switch box that connects between a telephone set and a public switched telephone network (PSTN) line for connection to an Internet service provider (ISP). The switch box contains hardware and

embedded software for establishing a connection to an ISP and for Internet telephone (Vaziri, see Abstract).

78.   With respect to claim 59, Vaziri teaches an apparatus for a user to connect an Internet-ready device to the Internet by an Internet connection independent means (Vaziri, Fig. 7B, element 100; col. 14, line 55 - col. 15, line 2), comprising:

At least two connection ports, where the first port connects to an Internet conduit, and the second port connects to the Internet-ready device capable of communicating utilizing Internet-related protocols (Vaziri, Fig. 4; col. 12, lines 1-6); a user interface, allowing the user to initiate passing information between the Internet-ready device and the Internet (Vaziri, col. 3, lines 33-37), a protocol handler block for receiving and handling messages from the user interface and from the Internet-ready device (Vaziri, col. 17, line 57 - col. 18, line 33), and for sending on the handled messages to a network stack block (Vaziri, col. 13, 13-31); the network stack block for handling an associated subset of the handled messages, and sending on to a physical connection block (Vaziri, col. 14, line 55 - col. 15, line 2); and the physical connection block for connecting to the Internet (Vaziri, col. 12, lines 13-16).

Vaziri does not explicitly teach indicators alerting the user that the passing of information is finished.

However, Imai teaches an apparatus having associated indicators to indicate to the user that the passing of information that was initiated by the user is complete (Imai, Fig. 11; col. 21, line 36-38).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Vaziri in view of Imai in order to enable the use of indicators alerting the user that the passing of information is finished. One would be motivated to do so in order to facilitate recognition of the completion of a specific task.

The combination of Vaziri and Imai does not explicitly teach the use of an electronic book.

However, Reavey teaches an apparatus where the Internet-ready device includes an electronic book (Reavey, col. 7, line 63 – col. 8, line 36).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combination of Vaziri and Imai in view of Reavey in order to enable the use of an electronic book. One would be motivated to do so in order to facilitate the downloading and storage of several books or periodicals.

Response to Arguments

79.   Applicant's arguments filed 05 August 2005 have been fully considered, but they are not

persuasive for the reasons set forth below.

80.   ***Applicant Argues:*** Applicant states "Applicant respectfully asserts that the above

excerpts from Vaziri simply relate to a telephone that is not an 'Internet-ready device,' as

claimed by applicant, since such device cannot connect to the Internet by itself."

In Response: The examiner respectfully submits that Vaziri teaches "at least two

connection ports (Fig. 4 shows the back or bottom view of an ISB – see Vaziri, Fig. 4,

elements 406 and 408; col. 12, line 1), where the first port connects to an Internet conduit,

and the second port connects to the Internet-ready device capable of communicating utilizing

Internet-related protocols (Back or bottom panel can include telephone jack for connection to

telephone line and optional port for connection to another device such as a PC – see Vaziri,

col. 12, lines 1-6). This renders the rejection proper, and thus rejection stands.

81.   ***Applicant Argues:*** Applicant states "Clearly there is no disclosure of even suggestion of

having indicators 'to indicate to said user that said passing of information is complete.'"

In Response: The examiner respectfully submits that Applicant's arguments have been

considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

82.   *Applicant Argues:* Applicant states "In no way is there even a suggestion of any sort of

messages, let alone sending handled messages to a network stack block, in the manner

claimed by applicant."

In Response: The examiner respectfully submits Vaziri teaches a protocol handler block

for receiving and handling messages from the user interface and from the Internet-ready

device (to send a message, the user dials #4, whereupon the ISB connects to the ISP and then

connects through the ISP and the Internet to the SMTP server. The user can then record a

message and then send it via the SMTP server to the recipient's e-mail address – see Vaziri,

col. 17, line 57 - col. 18, line 33), and for sending on the handled messages to a network

stack block (The SMTP server implements the simple mail transfer protocol (SMTP) for

sending e-mail, while the POP server implements the post office protocol (POP) for receiving

e-mail – see Vaziri, col. 13, 13-31). This renders the rejection proper, and thus rejection

stands.

83.   *Applicant Argues:* Applicant states "There is no mention of a subset of handled

messages, a stack block, or a physical connection block, in the context claimed by applicant."

In Response: The examiner respectfully submits that Vaziri teaches a subset of handled

messages (to send a message, the user dials #4, whereupon the ISB connects to the ISP and

then connects through the ISP and the Internet to the SMTP server. The user can then record

a message and then send it via the SMTP server to the recipient's e-mail address – see Vaziri,

col. 17, line 57 - col. 18, line 33), a stack block (the microprocessor on the ISB includes

software architecture that interacts with a TCP/UDP driver, an IP driver and a PPP driver that

serve as modifiable, embedded networking software for packetizing data and allowing

communication with the Internet – see Vaziri, col. 9, line 13- col. 10, line 15), and a physical

connection block (Fig. 4 shows the back or bottom view of an ISB – see Vaziri, Fig. 4,

elements 406 and 408; col. 12, line 1; Back or bottom panel can include telephone jack for

connection to telephone line). This renders the rejection proper, and thus rejection stands.

84.   ***Applicant Argues:*** Applicant states "Simply implementing an ISB with a DSP chip does

not meet any sort of embedding into other devices, as claimed by applicant"

In Response: The examiner respectfully submits that Vaziri teaches an apparatus that is

built to be embedded into other devices (an ISB is integrated within a telephone – see Vaziri,

col. 3, lines 21-23).

85.   ***Applicant Argues:*** Applicant states "However, the general description completely fails to

even mention an 'Internet-ready device [that] passes a rating level to the Internet' such that

'only data not violating said rating level is passed back to said Internet-ready device,' as

claimed by applicant."

In Response: The examiner respectfully submits that Applicant's arguments have been

considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Alicia Baturay whose telephone number is (571) 272-3981. The examiner can normally be reached at 7:30am - 5pm, Monday - Thursday, and every other Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Saleh Najjar can be reached on (571) 272-4006. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application

Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be

obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished

applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR

system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR

system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Alicia Baturay
October 12, 2005

SALEH NAJJAR
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER